

Application number 10/708,303  
Amendment dated February 23, 2006  
Reply to office action mailed August 23, 2005

PATENT

**Amendments to the Drawings:**

- The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figure 8. Replacement sheets for Figures 1-7 are also included.

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

After entry of this amendment, claims 2-20 will be pending in this application. Claim 1 has been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 2, 3, and 6-8 have been amended. Support for the amended claims can be found in the specification. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1 and 6-8 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,870,390 issued to Groen et al. These rejections are obviated by the above amendments. Claims 2-5 stand objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim. Accordingly, claims 3 and 4 have been rewritten as independent claims and the dependencies of claims 6-8 have been changed appropriately. Claims 9-20 are allowed.

Applicants are submitting drawing corrections of Figure 8 to comply with objections noted by the Examiner. Specifically, predrivers coupled to control electrodes of the transistor groups are now included. A full set of Figures 1-8 on 7 replacement sheets are included. Support for the drawing corrections can be found in the specification. No new matter has been added.

**CONCLUSION**

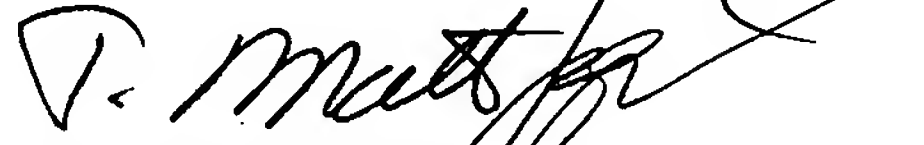
In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal notice of allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Application number 10/708,303  
Amendment dated February 23, 2006  
Reply to office action mailed August 23, 2005

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



J. Matthew Zigmant  
Reg. No. 44,005

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP  
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor  
San Francisco, California 94111-3834  
Tel: 415-576-0200  
Fax: 415-576-0300  
Attachments  
JMZ

60710106 v1

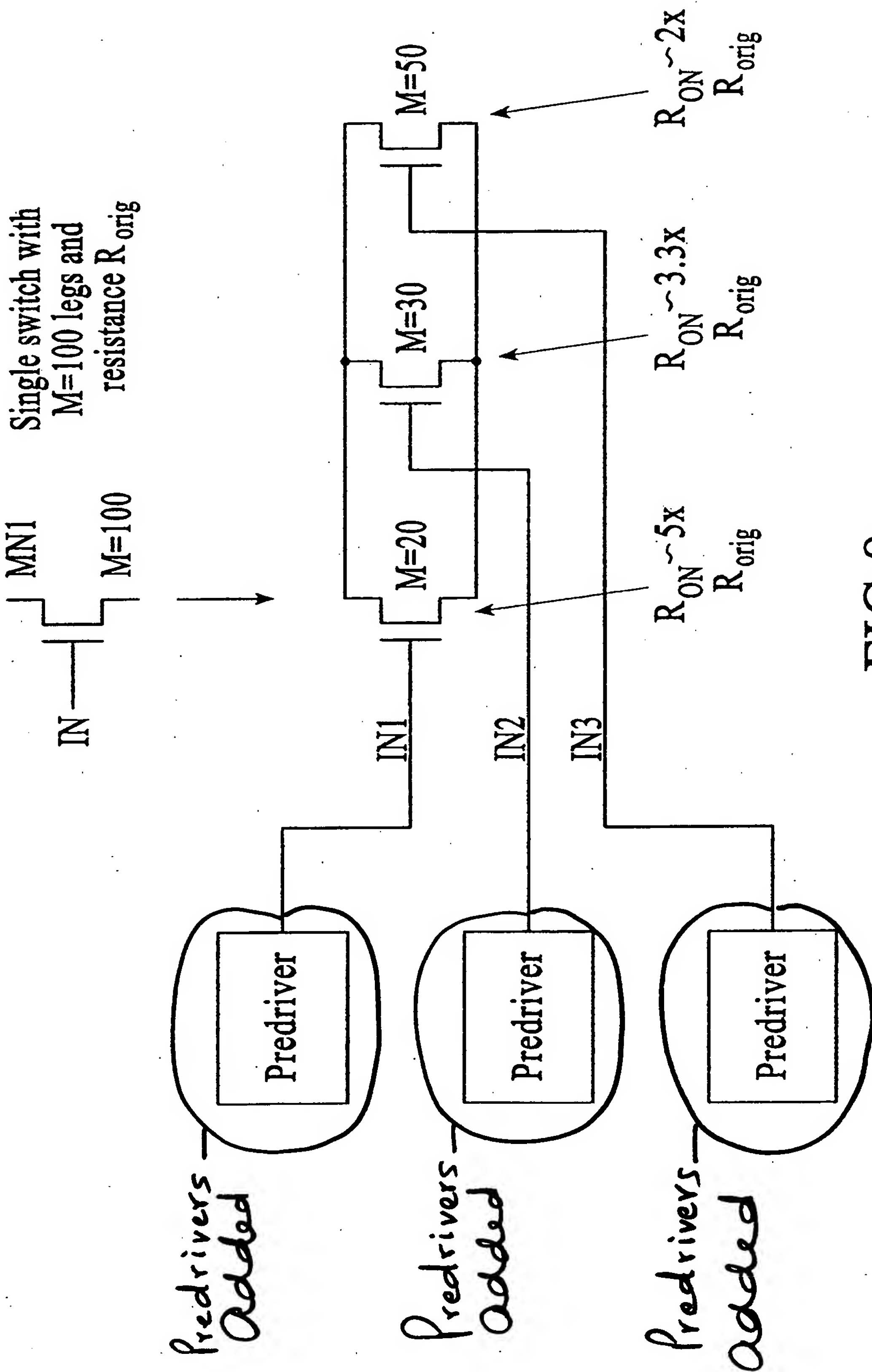


FIG.8